



Water Operations Management Team Notes

September 16, 2020

Members Attending

Kristin White, Liz Kiteck, Molly White, Mike Ford, Kaylee Allen, Matt Nobriga, Barb Byrne, Carl Wilcox, Erik Ekdahl, Diane Riddle

Members Not Attending

Howard Brown, Garwin Yip, Kristal Davis-Fadtke

Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 9/9/2020 WOMT Meeting Notes: Approved
- Operational Updates
 - CVP: Trinity flow augmentation flows at 1,050 cfs, scaled yesterday to 850 cfs based on response, return to 450 cfs on 9/19; Shasta decreasing to 6,600 cfs on Friday from 7,000 cfs; Nimbus scaling back for installation of the pickets tomorrow, early, flows will return to 1,750 cfs (a 250 cfs reduction); Goodwin 200 cfs and holding, the fall pulse flow will occur mid-Oct to early Nov.; San Luis 301 TAF, Delta exports 4,300 cfs; Federal Banks to 700 cfs.
 - SWP: releasing 2,100 cfs into the Feather River; Oroville storage 1.67 MAF, 71% historical average; Delta 2,000 cfs and projected +/- 100 to 200 over the coming week, continuing to move transfer water for the CVP, San Luis 660 TAF.
- Relevant Assessments
 - Revised Operational Outlook
 - Clear Creek Technical Team: Next regular meeting Thurs. 9/17
 - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group: Next meeting Thurs. 9/24
 - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team: Tuesday 9/29 (Kudos to the Participating Staff for recent productive discussions)
 - Feather River Operations Group: Next meeting on 9/17, because of fires in the area of Lake Oroville last week, the river valve was operated 2.5 day and is now shut down; watering up the fish ladder this week.
 - American River Group: Next Meeting Thurs. 9/17
 - Stanislaus River Watershed Team: Most recent meeting this morning, 9/16; Next Meeting Wed. 10/21
 - Delta Summer/Fall Habitat Tracking: no updates

- Upcoming Actions
 - Reclamation: none, Fall Rice Decomp for Discussion; surveys and monitoring for the 6,600 cfs releases from Keswick; We expect a power bypass request at ARG for Folsom; Shasta TCD middle gate curtain installation finished yesterday afternoon and we will see the full response in a couple days, some indication of benefit occurred this morning.
 - DWR:
 - Barker Slough Weed Removal out of compliance notice to CDFW re: lack of Biological Monitor; DWR also reported that weed removal was out of compliance with the NMFS work window and that DWR's follow-up actions are to (a) send letter to NMFS re: work outside of the window (with draft shown to Garwin first) and (b) possibly request reinitiation with Reclamation, pending further discussion of process, including whether reinitiation is warranted. DWR will coordinate with NMFS on the letter. NMFS is unclear whether the action warrants reinitiation. There may be FWS BiOp issues also, especially if weed removal window needs to be extended before June.
 - ITP 3.10 Condition on Dry Year Actions and Oct. 1 Deadline
 - FWS: none
 - NMFS: none
 - CDFW: none
 - SWRCB: none
- Discussion Items:
 - Fall Rice Decomposition Scheduling: we knew this action would not apply every year, but in some cases pushing diversions into November could reduce fall-run redd dewatering. Due to the smoke, rice harvest is likely already delayed 3-4 weeks. Winter-run redds are limiting our reductions. This year it appears that rescheduling the deliveries associated with rice decomposition may not be applicable or necessary. There may be an end of October peak and there may be enough water in the system anyway in November. The State Board noted a requirement in Board's approval of the Temperature Management Plan for an update on fall flow planning; however, Board staff participate in the group.
 - Dry Year Actions: We appear to have four actions related to this topic: 1) In a Tier 3 or 4 year, the Proposed Action/BiOps require Reclamation to meet with USFWS, NMFS, DWR, CDFW, and Sacramento River Settlement Contractors on voluntary measures to be considered if drought conditions continue; 2) The Proposed Action requires development of a drought toolkit within 18 months of executing the Record of Decision; 3) ITP has a requirement for DWR and Reclamation by October 1 to meet and confer with USFWS, NMFS, CDFW, SWRCB, and SWC and CVP contractors on voluntary measures to be considered if dry years conditions continue into the following year; and, 4) SWRCB's letter on protocols had a request for development of a drought response. CDFW and DWR will be talking about the ITP requirements next week. WOMET members recommend adding this topic to the agenda for the Wednesday LTO Coordination meetings, and SWRCB asked to participate in that portion of the meeting. LTO Coordination Team will discuss it next Wednesday and work it into the schedule.

- Elevation Items
 - Elevation Issues: none
 - Director Meeting Topics: none

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, Sept. 23, 1 pm, Teams “Call” Only